

Border Eagle

Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas ... Together we 'XL'



Vol. 49, No. 3

www.laughlin.af.mil

Jan. 26, 2001

the inside Scoop

Money counts:

The 47th Comptroller Flight commander explains how Laughlin must maintain image as excellent handlers of U.S. taxpayer's money...

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Annual awards:

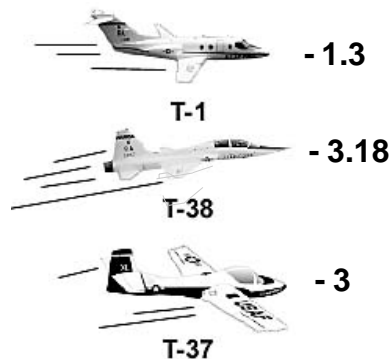
Annual award winners for 2000 are featured...

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Mission status

(As of Jan. 24)

Days ahead(+) or behind(-)



Fiscal Year 2001 statistics

--Sorties flown: 18,728
--Hours flown: 27,948.5
--Pilot wings earned in FY 01: 93
--Wings earned since 1963: 11,801

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Make tax season less taxing: 2001 tax assistance program helps members prepare returns

By Capt. Chad L. Diederich

47th Flying Training Wing Legal Office

The 2001 tax season is here and the Laughlin Tax Assistance Program is ready to help base members prepare and file their tax returns.

Active-duty members, retired military members and eligible dependents may use the program for filing basic tax returns.

Twenty-seven Volunteer Income Tax Assistance representatives will complete training and be ready to help individual members starting Monday. The program will run until April 16.

VITA volunteers can help members determine how much they owe, what refund they might receive and electronically file their tax returns. Electronic filing enables one to receive any refund that he or she is due more quickly than if filed by mail.

VITA volunteers can also help pay any owed tax through electronic withdrawal from one's bank account.

If you prefer to do taxes yourself, then you may stop at the tax assistance office to get the needed federal tax



Photo by Airman 1st Class Brad Pettit

Victoria Graham, Volunteer Income Tax Assistance coordinator for the San Antonio area, shows 2nd Lt. Neil Whelden, base legal office, how to help members file their annual income tax returns. After VITA students finish the five-day course, they are available in their assigned squadrons for members seeking tax assistance.

forms starting Monday. State tax forms are not available.

To take advantage of this program, stop by the tax assistance office be-

tween 9:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. The tax assistance

office is located on the second floor of

See 'Taxes,' page 10

Base provides buses for Tops in Blue

By Jim Teet

Public affairs

Laughlin will provide buses to transport people to and from the Tops in Blue 2000 performance Feb. 8 in Del Rio.

Air Force buses will depart for Paul Poag Theatre at 6, 6:15 and 6:30 p.m., according to services and transportation division representatives. Each bus will pick up passengers at Club XL, the enlisted dormitories and Fiesta Recreation Center, then depart the base for Del Rio. Buses will drop off returning passengers at the same points.

Tops in Blue 2000 will provide one 90-minute performance beginning at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 8. The family enter-

tainment is free and open to the public. Military identification cardholders may enter the theatre beginning at 6:30; the general public may enter at 7:00.

The 30-member ensemble provides a professional program of singers, dancers and musicians in nonstop entertainment. All members of the cast are enlisted and commissioned Air Force members. They are wrapping up a nine-month, 20-country performance tour.

Tops in Blue 2000 is co-sponsored by AT&T and USPA&IRA (no federal endorsement of sponsors intended). Audience members will be eligible to win gifts in drawings by both sponsors during the performance.

Commanders' Corner

Financial integrity means taking care of U.S. taxpayers' money

By Maj. Joseph Baca
47th Comptroller Flight

Much has been published on the keys to success. Many of these are tangible items that an individual can effect: knowledge, experience, tenacity, communication, etc. Just as important is the integrity we as public servants use to care for the U. S. taxpayers' money. Your credibility and personal involvement are the keys to the Air Force's financial integrity.

Unlike corporate America where sales, profits and financial ratios determine a firm's ability to fund future year's operations, the Air Force relies on Congress for funds.

Through an often complicated budget process, requirements are consolidated up the chain of command to Congress. After many debates and much lobbying, funding is distributed back down the chain of command. Although hard requirements drive funds distribution, financial integrity and the credibility it lends to a MAJCOM, base or squadron is the deciding factor. Would you want to give money to someone who has proven to be dishonest and wasteful or to someone whose integrity has shown a track record of getting the most "bang for the buck?" Last

year's fiscal year end closeout was a great example where Laughlin's financial integrity secured the "lion's share" (\$4.3 million) of the \$6.0 million HQ AETC had identified to fund its unfunded requirements.

Laughlin's great reputation is a direct result of your good stewardship of the taxpayers' money.

This goes beyond the fiduciary responsibility Commanders, Resource Advisors, Contracting Officers and Comptrollers are charged with to ensure financial laws and regulations are obeyed.

Your efforts have ensured resources are properly utilized and waste is eliminated. This great reputation and credibility has been built over several years, but it could be easily tarnished if financial integrity becomes an afterthought.

Your involvement will be even more critical in the future as the IMPAC program puts cards into more hands and travel vouchers become automated. Loss of funding for requirements would directly

impact our mission and quality of life. For now, we should count our blessings and remain vigilant. Your credibility and personal involvement have established a great reputation for Laughlin and above all the proper stewardship of the U.S. taxpayers' money.

"Laughlin's great reputation is a direct result of your good stewardship of the taxpayers' money. This great reputation and credibility has been built over several years, but it could be easily tarnished if financial integrity becomes an afterthought."

Serving in Air Force brings satisfaction

By Chaplain (Capt.) Travis Yelton
314th Airlift Wing, Maxwell AFB, Ala.

I have a confession. I am an airman who considered becoming a conscientious objector 10 years ago – but only briefly.

It was during the fall semester in college, right before Operation Desert Storm. My professor – who had come of age during the Vietnam era – addressed my classmates and me about becoming conscientious objectors to avoid serving involuntarily in conflict.

Until I faced a war that could potentially bring back the draft, I never considered becoming a conscientious objector. It was unthinkable. I respected other people's freedom to choose this path, but my desire to work in the "family business" would not be suppressed at that time or later.

I say the family business because that is how I explain my reason for joining the Air Force. As a young man, I realized how my family – through the bravery, dedication and sacrifice of others – protected and provided for my freedom. In choosing my life's work, I felt a sense of obligation to at least give back to the business that had taken care of me. I might have made more money working for someone else, but I wanted to help the family by offering a portion of my life. After all, grandparents like Billy Mitchell started the family business while enduring numerous hardships.

As I consider the future of the family business I hope to see it remain strong, building upon its rich heritage while maintaining a forward-looking philosophy.

I thank my professor for challenging me, because in considering his challenge I discovered the difference between a calling and a career. Nothing comes close to my family.

(Courtesy AFPN)

Col. Jack Egginton
Commander
Capt. Angela O'Connell
Public Affairs Officer
Airman 1st Class Brad Pettit
Editor

The Border Eagle is published every Friday, except the first week in January and the last week in December, by the Del Rio News Herald, a private firm in no way connected with the U. S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with the 47th Flying Training Wing, Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas.

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indicated.

Deadlines, Advertising

News for the Border Eagle should be submitted to the 47th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs Office, Bldg. 338, Laughlin AFB, TX, Ext. 5262. **Copy deadline is close of business each Thursday the week prior to publication.**

Advertising should be submitted to the Del Rio News-Herald, 2205 Bedell, Del Rio, TX, 774-4611. Advertising should be submitted by 4 p.m. each Friday.

Submissions can be E-mailed to:
bradley.pettit@laughlin.af.mil or
reginal.woodruff@laughlin.af.mil

"Excellence – not our goal, but our standard."

– 47 FTW motto



Photo by Airman 1st Class Brad Pettit

Former POW touches down at Laughlin

Lt. Col. Tom Davidson, 85th Flying Training Squadron commander, takes (Ret.) Brig. Gen. Robinson Risner, a former 7 1/2 year prisoner of war, on a tour around the 85th. Brig. Gen. Risner visited Laughlin to serve as a guest speaker for the Specialized Undergraduate Pilot

Training Class 01-04 graduation ceremony Jan. 19, where, according to Col. Foret, 47th Flying Training Wing vice commander, "He provided an insight into life as a prisoner of war and shared his keys for success with the SUPT graduates."

F-15 accident report released

Air Force officials completed the investigation of a ground-test aircraft accident that occurred at Royal Air Force Lakenheath, England Aug. 11.

The accident, which involved an F-15E Strike Eagle and an engine testing facility, has been designated a "Class A" accident, which means it resulted in more than \$1 million of damage.

One airman sustained minor injuries. No other military or civilian personnel were injured.

The Accident Investigation Board found that during a ground test of the F-15E's jet engines, the aircraft's arresting hook disconnected from the holdback assembly, allowing the aircraft to roll forward and collide with the door of the testing facility.

Investigators determined the accident was caused by a failure to properly connect the holdback assembly to the aircraft's arresting hook.

The aircraft is being repaired and will be returned to flight operations.

(Courtesy AFPN)

Actionline

Call 298-5351

This column is one way to work through problems that haven't been solved through normal channels. By leaving your name and phone number, you are assured of a timely personal reply. It's also very useful in case more information is needed in order to pursue your inquiry. If you give your name, we will make every attempt to ensure confidentiality when appropriate.

If your question relates to the general interest of the people of Laughlin, the question and answer may also be printed in the Border Eagle. Before you call the Actionline, please try to work the problem out through the normal chain of command or directly with the base agency involved.

Thanks for your cooperation and I look forward to reading some quality ideas and suggestions.



Col. Jack Egginton
47 FTW commander

AAFES	298-3176
Accounting and Finance	298-5204
Civil Engineer	298-5252
Civilian Personnel	298-5299
Commissary	298-5815
Dormitory manager	298-5213
Hospital	298-6311
Housing	298-5904
Inspector General	298-5638
Legal	298-5172
Military Personnel	298-5073
Public Affairs	298-5988
Security Forces	298-5900
Services	298-5810
Equal Opportunity	298-5400
FWA hotline	298-4170

Call: I have a question about the housing office. I've had a swing in my front yard for the last 9 1/2 months, my neighbor has had her's about 6 months, and another neighbor has had her's for more than a year. Suddenly, we've started getting ticketed for our swings because they are con-

cerned about the safety of our children. Why is it o.k. to have a swing in the back yard and now we are being ticketed for having one in the front yard?

Response: Our concern for the safety of our children is the primary reason for objecting to swings

in trees. Tree limbs can be hollowed out and weakened by ants and rodents that can cause them to break unexpectedly with the least amount of weight. Additionally, nothing should be anchored to government property such as quarters, carports, clotheslines, trees, etc. in the housing area. Occupants are provided with a

housing package that includes the Military Family Housing Potpourri with an excerpt called "care of grounds," which indicates no swings are permitted in trees. Swings are only permitted on a privately owned structure such as a swing set. Thank you for your question. I hope this answers it.

Laughlin recognizes annual award winners

Base selects the following military and civilian members as the best in their categories for the year:



Capt. Melissa Cunningham
47th Flying Training Wing
Company Grade Officer, Volunteer



Master Sgt. Timothy Griffin
47th Communications Squadron
Senior NCO



Tech. Sgt. Kristopher Kite
47th Communications Squadron
NCO



Airman 1st Class Veronica Marin
47th Communications Squadron
Airman



Master Sgt. James Donnett
47th Support Group
First Sergeant



Capt. Scott Daigle
85th Flying Training Squadron
Instructor Pilot



Hilda Vasquez
47th Operations Group
Civilian Category I



James Sutton
47th Operations Group
Civilian Category II



Steven Beinke
47th Operations Group
Civilian Category III



Michelle Lethco
47th Support Group
NAF Category II



Capt. David Merritt
47th Operations Support Squadron
Non-Rated Flight Commander



Capt. Aaron Kerkman
87th Flying Training Squadron
Rated Flight Commander

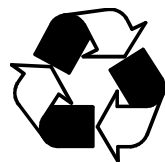


Tech. Sgt. April Ferraro
47th Mission Support Squadron
Health and Safety Contributor



Senior Airman Deborah Gililand
47th Operations Group
Honor Guard Member

Please recycle...



Question of the week

Who do you think is going to win the Super Bowl?



"The stellar Baltimore defense will show the mediocre Giant offense just how the game is played. Ravens by five."

Capt. Tony Holmes
47th Transportation
Division



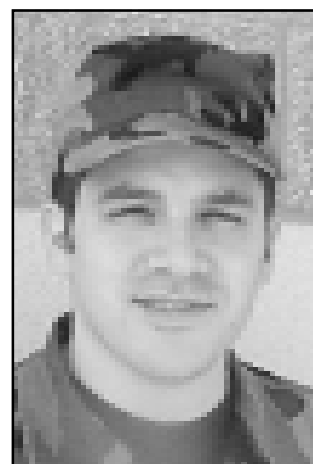
"The Giants will win, 31-24. The Giants have been controlling the ball the second part of the season and the Giants' offense is finally coming on."

Tech. Sgt. Kenneth Elrod
47th Mission Support
Squadron



"The Giants will win, 24-17. Any team that can whip the Vikings like that deserves to be Super Bowl champ."

Tech Sgt. David Hirtreiter
47th Mission Support
Squadron



"The Ravens will win, 21-14. The Ravens are a new team, they're young and they want it bad."

Senior Airman Andre Cardenas
47th Mission Support
Squadron

Name: 1st Lt. Chris Hawn.
Class/Date of graduation from Laughlin: Class 99-13, Aug. 13, 1999.

Aircraft you now fly and base you are stationed at: B-1B Lancer "The Bone," 34th Bomb Squadron "Thunderbirds," Mountain Home AFB, Idaho.

Mission of your current aircraft? The B-1B is a long-range strategic bomber, capable of flying intercontinental missions without refueling, then penetrating present and future sophisticated enemy defense. It can perform missions, including that of a conventional weapons carrier for theater operations.

What do you like most about your current aircraft? Flexibility of our mission, low-level operations and the crew environment.

What do you dislike most

about your current aircraft? Lack of spare parts for required maintenance which results in fewer FMC jets and more "canned" jets.
What was the most important thing you learned at Laughlin besides learning to fly? Maintaining professionalism and the big picture of what you are

doing...you are an officer first, an aviator second.

What is your most memorable experience from Laughlin? The floods of August 1998. Also, seeing some friends in my class swimming on the flightline.
What advice would you give SUPT students at Laughlin? Don't let the intense competition during SUPT overshadow the fun and thrill of what you are doing.



The *XLer*



Photo by Airman 1st Class Brad Pettit

Tech. Sgt. Joseph Bellini
47th Security Forces Squadron

Hometown: New Lisbon, Wis.

Time at Laughlin: 1 year, 9 months.

Time in service: 17 years.

Name one way to improve life at

Laughlin: Provide more activities for families and advertise ones that do exist.

Greatest accomplishment: Rescuing victims of the bombing of Lebel's Disco Tec in Berlin, Germany and assisting Special Operations in evacuating noncombatants during a rebel uprising in Senegal, Africa, in 1998.

Bad habit: I stress over little things.

Motto: Lead, follow or get out of the way.

Favorite beverage: German wine from the Mosel.

Favorite food: Almost anything barbecued.

Hobbies: Fishing, camping and playing with my two boys.

If you could spend one hour with any historical or contemporary figure, who would it be and why? My grandfather. He died when I was young and he had a very interesting life.



OSI agents John Gill (left) and Ruben Sanchez use a metal detector to recover evidence at a crime scene.



(Below) is a fingerprint lifted from an item of evidence discovered during a recent investigation.

OSI searches for enlisted recruits to join career field

**Photos and story by
Master Sgt. Tom Hankus**

Public affairs

The Air Force currently has several opportunities for air men to join the ranks of the Air Force Office of Special Investigations.

Special Agents are the Air Force OSI's number one asset. They are trained to investigate crimes against persons and property, base level and contract fraud, and they provide counterintelligence support for the Air Force's force protection mission.

AFOSI provides commanders of all Air Force activities independent professional investigative services for fraud counterintelligence and major criminal matters.

John Gill, Laughlin's special agent in charge, says the Del Rio area is one of the Air Force's busiest areas from a law enforcement perspective. "Our proximity to the border results in drug and immigration concerns that keep all area law en-

forcement agencies extremely busy."

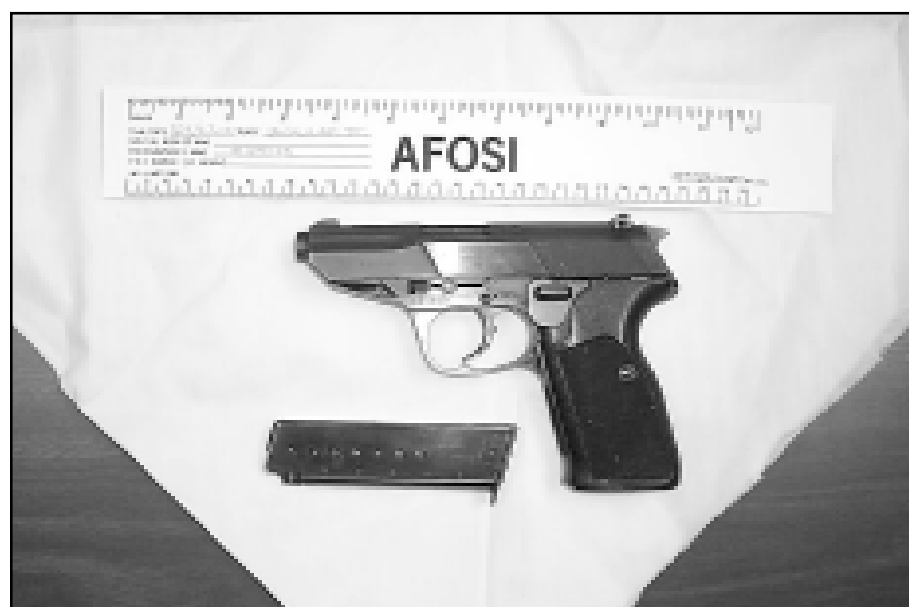
AFOSI special agents can work with local, state, federal and foreign law enforcement agencies worldwide, Gill added. They are people who like to solve problems, have well-developed analytical skills and enjoy challenges.

Candidates for AFOSI special agents include senior airmen with less than six years military service, and staff sergeants, technical sergeants and master sergeants with outstanding records and less than 12 years military service. Applicants with foreign language, computer skills, or electronics backgrounds

are particularly encouraged to apply. Airmen holding critical Air Force Specialty Codes, however, cannot apply. Selectees will attend an 11-week Special Investigators Course at Andrews AFB, Md.

Enlisted members interested in applying should contact their local Military Personnel Flight retraining branch and AFOSI detachment to determine their eligibility.

For more information concerning OSI opportunities at Laughlin, call 5158.



This firearm was recovered during a recent OSI investigation.

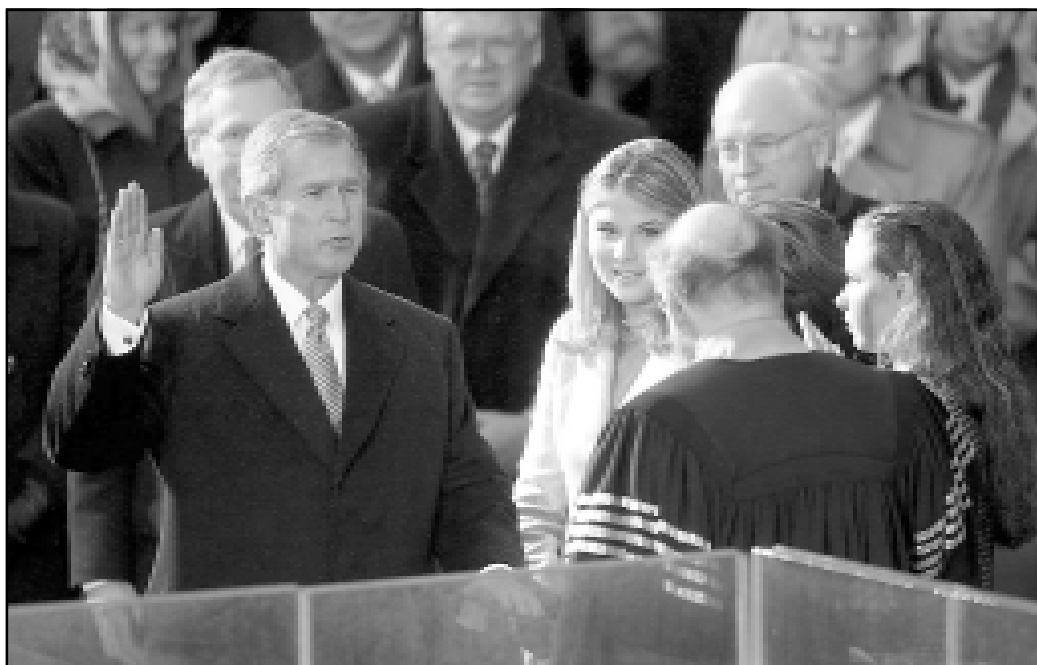


Photo by Tech. Sgt. Lou Briscese

With his family by his side, George W. Bush is sworn in as the 43rd president of the United States by Supreme Court Chief Justice William Renquist.

Air Force participates in inauguration process

By Tech. Sgt. Russell D. Kirk
Air Force Print News

Misty rain, cold temperatures and low visibility neither dampened the spirits nor slowed the pace of Air Force personnel participating in the Jan. 20 inauguration of the 43rd president and commander in chief, George W. Bush.

Volunteers from throughout the Air Force participated in the weeklong inauguration activities, including the Honor Guard, elements of the AF Band, color guard, U.S. Air Force Academy cadets and members of various reserve and National Guard units.

Former U.S. Army Golden Knight, Master Sgt. Charles Hall, served as the noncommissioned officer in charge of media relations for the parade assembly area. He is currently a reservist with the 315th Airlift Wing, Charleston AFB, S.C.

"This is a wonderful experience," Hall said. "This is the biggest event I've ever been involved in." Hall referred to the event as the "Super Bowl" of parades.

Tech. Sgt. Brian MacDonald, lead trumpet player for the Airmen of Note, said he plays at a lot of similar functions like this around the area, but this was special.

"This was a great honor to play for our veterans," he said. "It was pretty overwhelm-

ing to be here on stage with the president (elect) and vice president (elect)."

The Joint Chiefs of Staff also held a luncheon honoring Medal of Honor recipients at the Sheraton National Hotel in Arlington, Va.

"Today we honor individuals whose heroic exploits and feats of courage have contributed greatly to the longevity of our republic," said Gen. Henry H. Shelton, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. "The work of people like John Levitow (who died Nov. 8) and all the members of the Congressional Medal of Honor Society – preserving our national memory of extraordinary exploits of its members – is crucial. He (Levitow) was truly an inspiration to countless men and women serving in the Air Force and the rest of the Armed Forces."

The military has been involved in inaugural activities since George Washington was sworn in April 30, 1789. Like a fine-tuned machine, the Air Force honors its new commander-in-chief with world-class representation. What has taken six months to almost a year to plan, culminated in three days of gala events featuring entertainers, guests from around the country and a contingent of AF people.

(Courtesy AFNS)

AF officer foils internet scam

By 2nd Lt. Kris Wood

Public affairs

An Air Force officer assigned to Andrews AFB, Md., recently unveiled a scam targeted at people who use credit cards to pay for Internet service providers such as America Online.

As the officer logged on to AOL, he received a message stating that his account was past due and a new credit card number was required to prevent a late fee of \$35. The message looked genuine and had no visible differences from any other AOL e-mail other than the unusual content.

The officer knew his credit card was in good standing, and since he had used a secondary account

name to log on to the system, a billing message should never have been delivered to that screen name.

The officer contacted AOL and was informed that the message was not from AOL, but was a scam to get his credit card number and information.

This represents another example of many attempts to defraud AF people.

Should you encounter anything asking for personal information, always verify the source and validity prior to disclosure.

Information and education are the keys to success against such criminal activity.

If you suspect fraud involving your e-mail account, contact your respective ISP immediately.



From the Blotter

(Jan. 10-17)



■ An individual reported an unknown person had used her personal information to open a credit account without her consent. She learned of the situation when contacted by a collection agency.

■ An individual turned himself into the Security Forces after being AWOL from the Marines. The Marine recruiter was contacted and assumed custody of the individual.

■ An individual reported their personal clothing was stolen from the Base Gym. Security Forces investigator started a case file.

■ An individual reported a 24-inch scratch to his 1994 Toyota. Individual noticed the damage after exiting the base commissary. No damage estimate was given.

Tip of the day: Tools to help improve driving safely on our base. More information may be found on AFI 31-204.

■ A stop sign requires **ceasing all move-**

ment of your vehicle. Yield signs become a stop sign when traffic is on the main road. YIELD the right of way, do not enter the road and hope to accelerate to speed before the other vehicle hits you.

■ Park only in approved slots designated with white lines. Parking on the main road may place you in harms way or contribute to an accident.

■ Even if you are leaving your vehicle for a short time it must not be left running unattended. Your car may be taken by someone else or cause an accident.

■ When you stop behind another vehicle at a stop sign you must make a second stop after the vehicle in front of you moves through the intersection.

■ Pedestrians waiting to cross the street have the right of way. This also applies to troop movements. Now that we are hosting a group of Marines this may come in useful.

Hungry for more Air Force news?

United States Air Force **ONLINE news**



Check it out at:
<http://www.af.mil/newspaper>

Chapel Schedule

Catholic

-Saturday Vigil Mass 5 p.m.

-Sunday Mass 9:30 a.m.

-Confession by appointment.

-Choir 6 p.m. Thursdays.

-CCD 11 a.m., Religious Education Building.

-Little Rock Scripture Study 11 a.m. Sunday in Chapel Fellowship Hall.

Jewish

Max Stool, call 775-4519.

Muslim

Dr. Mostafa Salama, call 768-9200.

Protestant

-General worship 11 a.m.

- Women's Bible Study, 12:30-2:15 p.m. Wednesday at Chapel.

Student Wives Fellowship 7-9 p.m. Monday; call 298-7365.

-Sunday school, 9:30 a.m. at the Religious Education Bldg.

-Choir, 7 p.m. Wednesday at Chapel

Chapel Youth Group -Sunday, 5 p.m. Chapel Fellowship Hall

Chapel staff

Chaplains

Maj. C. Jeffery Swanson

Maj. Frank Hamilton

Capt. Larry Bailey

Capt. Richard Black

Chaplains' Assistants

Tech Sgt. Donald Williams

Senior Airman Diana Beauvais

Airman 1st Class

Christina Deutsch

"God loves you and we do too."

For more information on chapel events and services, call 5111.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Brad Pettit

Unsung heroes

(From left) Leigh-Alyson Zingaro, Alana Gregory and Elizabeth Selkey of the Officers' Spouses' Club, pose for a photograph during the graduation breakfast for Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 01-04. "The ladies volunteer their time and personal touch to make graduation special by setting up the graduation breakfast," said Col. Herb Foret, 47th Flying Training Wing vice commander. "There are numerous people who work behind the scenes to make the SUPT graduation special for the graduates and their families. Thanks ladies!"

Why I joined the Air Force; why I stayed



Name: Master Sgt. Mark Bowersox.
Organization: 47th Flying Training Wing.
Hometown: Norfolk, Neb.
His story: I joined the Air Force in May 1981 one week after graduating from high school. I had entered the delayed entry program in November 1980 because I didn't really know what I wanted to do when I gradu-

ated from high school.
The Air Force, for me, was a wide open opportunity to strike out on my own and have great benefits and pay while I tried out an occupation.
My first career field was as a security specialist. I enjoyed the career field and it gave me an appreciation for the hard work our security forces do on a day-to-day basis. They have to show up an hour before shift to draw weapons and stand guardmount, then relieve their posted positions. An eight hour shift is normally 10 and an exercise 12-hour shift turns into about 14.
As an initial six-year enlistee, I had the option at the three year mark to apply for retraining. That took me to my second career field – Health Services Manage-
ment. My assignments as a Health Services Management Specialist have been varied and challenging, culminating in my volunteering to be the career assistance adviser. Serving as a career assistance adviser enables me to help the Air Force by being available to commanders, first sergeants and supervisors to assist in increasing retention of quality airmen for the AF family.
Being part of the AF family has many benefits; pay, training, education opportunities, leadership training and medical care. But the part of the benefits that kept me are intangible; i.e., the fellowship of being part of something greater than what is available on the

outside. When I retire, the thing that will be hardest to say goodbye to is being a coach and being coached. No other organization can say that they spend as much time as the Air Force in building leaders, mentors and instilling values. Professional military education is the number one reason I have stayed. It empowered me and my mentors with the tools to counsel, motivate, guide me and groom me as an Air Force family member and leader.
Throughout my career, my commanders and super-

visors have allowed me and encouraged me to attend leadership training. I've averaged at least one week of PME training for every year I've served in the Air Force.
And each one of the weeks has helped to groom me into a leader whose number one duty is to grow leaders to replace me.
Advice: My advice to first- and second-term airmen is to take pride in taking the oath of enlistment, take pride in being a United States Air Force airman, and grow one or two replacements for yourself by being a positive role model and mentor.



'Taxes,' from page 1

the Wing Headquarters Bldg. 338, Room 18.
You may contact your squadron's VITA volunteer for more specific information. We could not have a successful tax program without them!
VITA volunteers are listed below:

Squadron	Name	Phone
47th Flying Training Wing	Anita Cox	5236
47th FTW/JA	Neil Whelden	5172
47th Civil Engineer Squadron	2nd Lt. Nathan Fannesbeck	4389
47 CES	Staff Sgt. Sean McCauley	5633
47th Contracting Squadron	Senior Airman Rachel Taylor Arenas	5769
47th Comptroller Flight	1st Lt. Ray Reynosa	5203
47 CPTF	Angie Maley	5261
47th Security Forces Squadron	Staff Sgt. Lavell Jenkins	5249
47 Communications Squadron	Senior Airman Kenny King	5200
47 CS	Staff Sgt. Monica Harris	5081
47th Medical Group	Airman 1st Class Alan H. James	6362
47th Operations Group	Arla Brewton	5947
47 OG	Frank Scott	5513
47 Operations Support Squadron	Staff Sgt. Andy Artieda	5759
47 OSS	Airman 1st Class Dennis Peterson	5847
84th Flying Training Squadron	1st Lt. Chad Delrossa	4777
85th Flying Training Squadron	1st Lt. Jason Repak	5544
86th Flying Training Squadron	1st Lt. Dave Drane	4243
86 FTS	1st Lt. Stu Rubio	5011
96th Flying Training Squadron	Marlene Schuler	4835

Military pay information line expands

Active-duty, Reserve, National Guard and recently separated military people can now access expanded pay information through a new Military Pay Interactive Voice Response System.

Servicemembers in the continental U.S. can access the MP IVRS by using toll-free numbers. While overseas, members can access the system using DSN and commercial numbers.

By using a preestablished personal identification number, the pay IVRS will automatically determine the member's status – active duty, reserve or separated – and provide appropriate menu selections.

Active-duty people will be able to access their payday deposit information, a list of current allotments, the number of bonds in safekeeping, their leave balance, tax filing status, exemptions and year-to-date wage and withholdings information.

Reserve and National Guard members have access to their payroll deposit history, current deduction for Servicemen's Group Life Insurance, tax status and withholdings information.

Separated members will be able to research the last payment made on their pay account.

All customers will have access to instructions on how to get replacement W-2s.

General information recordings will be available for people not eligible for or who do not want to establish a PIN, including: how-to information on reporting missing allotment payments, getting estimated earnings for conversion of military time to civil service retirement and requesting safekeeping bonds.

Air Force active-duty and Reserve members who established a PIN for use with the earlier version of MP IVRS will be able to use the same number on the new system. Secondary-user PINs, generally given to spouses, will no longer be valid. Temporary PINs have been issued to all other servicemembers by mail.

Upon receipt of a temporary PIN, servicemembers will be able to access the pay line. Temporary PINs must be customized within 120 days of issuance.

The Employee/Member Self-Service allows people to make changes to their pay account. Personal identification numbers for this service may not be used with the MP IVRS.

People may contact the centralized customer support office at 1-800-390-2348 for PIN-related questions for either system.

Automated access to the military pay line is available 24 hours a day by calling toll-free 1-800-755-7413, commercial 303-676-1281 or DSN 926-1281.



Drops become gallons



Sexual harassment hotline remains available

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFPN) — Senior Air Force leaders want military and civilian employees to remain aware of the service's sexual harassment hotline.

The Air Force Personnel Center here operates the hotline, which is set up to receive sexual harassment and other forms of discrimination inquiries.

The numbers are toll-free 1-800-558-1404, DSN 665-2949 or commercial (210) 565-2949. "First, we expect our people to use their chain of command," said Maj. Gen. Richard E. Brown, AFPC's commander. "How-

ever, the hot line offers another channel of communication for those who have a question, concern or complaint about sexual harassment or discrimination.

"The AF has 'zero tolerance' for sexual harassment and discrimination and we take each call very seriously."

An AFPC Call Center representative answers each call to the hot line. Callers with a sexual harassment or discrimination concern are forwarded to a military equal opportunity counselor. Counselors ensure callers understand the avenues available to them

and complaints are channeled to the proper authority.

Counselors are available to take calls during normal duty hours, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. CST. After normal duty hours, voice mail is available for callers to leave messages. After-hours phone calls are returned the following duty day. Counselors are available 24 hours a day for emergencies, or when an immediate response is desired. The call center voice mail will instruct callers how to reach an after-hours counselor.

(Courtesy AFPC News Service.)

Remember
home security:
Keep your
doors locked



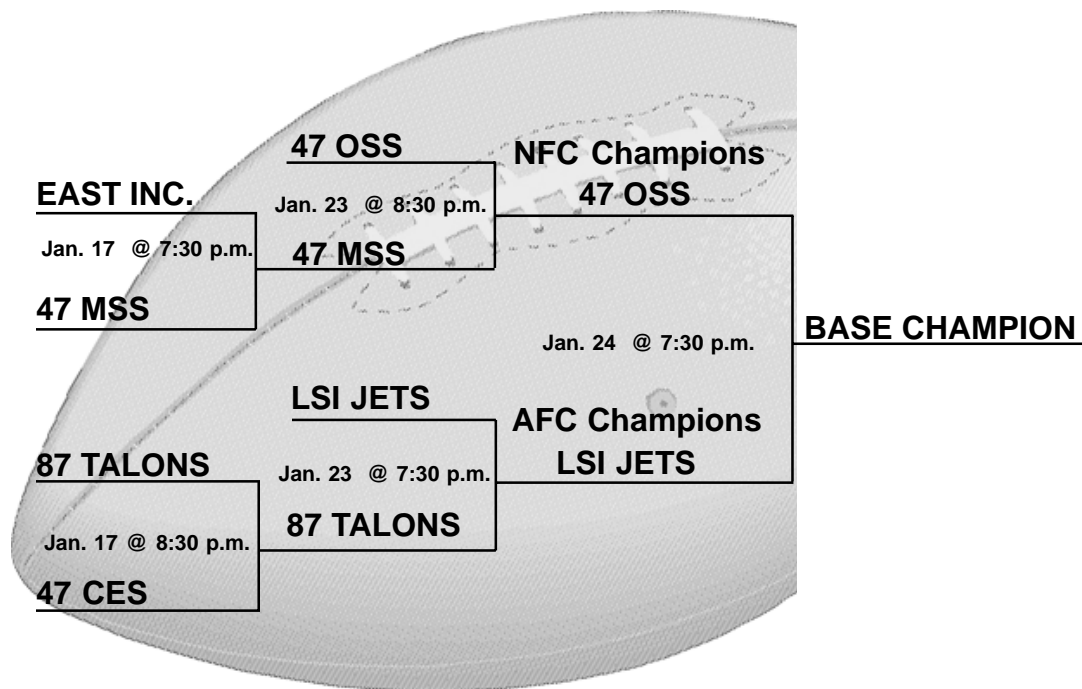
Playin' it safe

(Left) Col. Herbert Foret, 47th Flying Training Wing vice commander, presents Juan Sanchez, 47th Operations Group, with the 47 FTW Quarterly Individual Safety Award at the Wing Quarterly Combined Safety Council meeting, Jan. 18, for his quick reactions Oct. 11, when he noticed a nose strut bungee top mount bolt missing while performing a thruplight inspection on a T-38.

By finding the missing bolt, he prevented the possible loss of an aircraft and the lives of two aircrew members.

(Far left) Col. Foret presents the 47 FTW Quarterly Unit Safety Representative Award to Tech. Sgt. Jonathan S. Wallace, 47th Security Forces Squadron, at the Wing Quarterly Combined Safety Council meeting, Jan. 18. His efforts in the security forces safety mishap prevention program proved to be a major factor in the unit's success during the Annual Wing Safety Inspection and Assessment.

2000-2001 Flag Football Playoffs



Note: The championship game was scheduled to be played after the Border Eagle's press time. Look for complete coverage in next week's issue.

Sports activities

The XL Fitness Center is currently beginning a series of fitness programs.

■ Among these programs is The Great American Road Trip, which asks individuals to log in accumulated miles accomplished on indoor equipment or outdoor runs or walks.

After completing a certain amount of miles, prizes will be awarded.

■ The XL Fitness Center is in search of basketball players interested in playing in the intramural basketball season.

For more information

on these programs, call the XL Fitness Center at 5326.

■ For those interested in shooting, the intramural trap and skeet league may be for you. Call Doug Pecham at 5830 for more information.

■ Club Amistad and Club XL are hosting Super Bowl parties from 4 to 9 p.m. Sunday. Prizes will be given away and food and drinks will be served. All military personnel and civilians are invited.

For more information, call 5134.

Yankees star trades uniform for Thunderbirds flight suit

By Senior Airman
Jerron Barnett

Air Mobility Command Public Affairs

Tino Martinez, baseball's New York Yankees first baseman, got the once-in-a-lifetime chance Jan. 23 to fly with the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds. It was a chance he had dreamed of as a child.

"I've been really excited about it ever since (Brig. Gen. Chip Diehl, 6th Air Mobility Wing commander) called me about it a couple days ago," Martinez said before his pre-flight training. "I've seen the planes in Seattle airshows a couple of times. I used to live close to this area when I was growing up, and I would always see the planes practice a lot. It's awesome to watch."

The Thunderbirds are here to support Super Bowl XXXV. They will perform aerial maneuvers right before kickoff Sunday. While they are in town, the pilots will also give some of the local celebrities, like

Martinez, orientation flights.

Before Martinez or any other passengers get into the cockpit of the Thunderbirds' F-16 Fighting Falcons, a series of exams and safety briefings must be given to passengers before flying. These procedures ensure passengers are medically safe to fly and understand their duties in case of an emergency.

"The briefings were a lot of information, but I need to know that stuff," Martinez said. "It's a little intimidating, but I'm ready."

After the exams, briefings, fitting of the G-suit and helmet, Maj. Scott Bowen, Thunderbird slot pilot, gave Martinez an overall look at the flight.

"Basically, we will go out...and perform our aerial maneuvers like barrel rolls, loops and vertical climbs," Bowen said. "We will probably get up to about 500 miles per hour during the trip and come back."

After a goodbye kiss from his wife, Marie, and their three children,



Photo by Senior Airman Jerron Barnett

Tino Martinez, New York Yankees first baseman, gets some last minute instructions from Maj. Scott Bowen, U.S. Air Force Thunderbird slot pilot, before takeoff. Martinez was one of many sports celebrities receiving orientation flights from the Thunderbirds before Super Bowl XXXV.

Martinez and Bowen were 'off to the wild blue yonder.' After the flight, Martinez was thrilled.

"I got to fly the plane for a short

time and then we did some loops and turns," Martinez said. "Sign me into Air Force, that was awesome."

(Courtesy AFNS)

Please recycle this newspaper...

01-04 award winners

2nd Lt. Blake P. Johnson

AETC Commander's Trophy, Airlift/Tanker
Daedalian Award

Academic award Airlift/Tanker

Flying Training Award Airlift/Tanker

Distinguished Graduate Airlift/Tanker

2nd Lt. Geoffrey S. Fukumoto

AETC Commander's Trophy Fighter/Bomber

Distinguished Graduate Fighter/Bomber

1st Lt. Felix Sng

Academic award Fighter/Bomber

2nd Lt. Jason E. O'Brien

Fighter Track Flying Training Award

2nd Lt. Todd D. Pierce

Outstanding Officer

Birth announcement

James MacKenzie O'Connell was born Dec. 11 to Capt. James (86th Flying Training Squadron) and Angela (47 FTW public affairs officer) O'Connell. He was born 6 pounds, 4 ounces; 20 1/2 inches.

Laughlin history

Q: A plaque in front of building 328 commemorates the dedication of the building to Chief Master Sgt. Daniel Jarvis. Who was he?

(a) 47 FTW Senior Enlisted Adviser from 1975 until his death in 1977

(b) Superintendent of Training Devices from 1971 until his death in 1977

(c) Chief of Training, 47th Director of Operations, 1974-1977

A: (b) is correct. Chief Jarvis did not live to see his dream come true—a new simulator building. The suggestion was made to dedicate the building to Chief Jarvis because he was an outstanding NCO who devoted many hours, both on and off duty, to ensure peak performance of the present simulator facilities, and maximum training time for all student pilots.

Supply block training

The Supply Block IIB (Repair Cycle Management), and Supply Block III (Equipment Management) classes for January have been rescheduled for Monday 9-10 a.m. (IIB) and 1:30-2:30 p.m. (III). The classes will be in building 77 in the supply training room.

Leave requests

Civilian employees should submit annual leave requests by Wednesday. Employees will be notified of any problems arising from the initial schedules by Feb. 14.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Brad Pettit

Better late than never

Staff Sgt. Daniel Grabski, 47th Medical Group, gives Staff Sgt. Nat Ruiz, 47th Services Division, a mandatory flu shot. Even though the vaccine was delayed, there is still substantial benefit to receiving it, and Laughlin must complete vaccinations as soon as possible to comply with DoD directives. Vaccinations are available Monday through Friday at the Immunization Clinic 7:30 a.m. until noon and 1-5 p.m.

Scholarships

The Scholarships for Military Children Program was created in recognition of the contributions of military families to the readiness of the fighting force and to celebrate the role of the commissary in the military family community.

Children of active duty, reserve/guard or retired military personnel, including survivors of deceased members, may apply for a scholarship under this program. Eligibility will be determined using the DoD ID Card Directive. Applications must be turned in to your local commissary by Feb. 15.

Applications are available at www.commissaries.com or the Laughlin Education Services office, building 316.

For more information, you may contact Kathy Craven at 732-5520.

Sponsors wanted:

The International Office is in search of families to interact with student pilots from other countries. There are student pilots here from Japan, Italy and Singapore. It is a great opportunity to introduce these international officers to our culture and family life.

If you are at all interested, call 2nd Lt. Blane Morgan at 298-5445.

Employee verification

The Air Force is implementing a new process for civilian employment verification called The Work Number for Everyone. With TWN, employment and salary verification for mortgages, major loans, credit cards, etc. will be processed in a matter of minutes. Employees authorize access to their employment and salary information by giving the lender a one-time access code. The informa-

tion is accessible free, 24 hours a day, everyday. Use of the service is voluntary.

The CPF will distribute information about the program, call 5806 for additional information.

New personnel system

A new personnel system—Civilian Modern—will be deployed in August, which will affect some civilian personnel procedures. One major change will be the process used to fill vacant positions. All vacant positions will be announced on the AFPC website and through the Interactive Voice Response System. Laughlin employees interested in being considered for vacant positions will now be required to self-nominate when the vacancy is posted.

It is important that employees carefully review their work experience, education and training to ensure they are correct and up-to-date, as this information will be used in the new system. There are several ways to review automated records: (1) regional applications, a computer program available at several worksites throughout the base (call 5843 for nearest location); (2) two computers at the civilian personnel flight; or (3) an experience brief at the CPF (call 5806 to request).

To change or update information, call 5127 to schedule an appointment.

Commissary hours

The base commissary will operate on the following hours starting Feb. 6:

Sunday – 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Monday – Closed.

Tuesday – 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Wednesday – 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Thursday – 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Friday – 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Saturday – 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.